

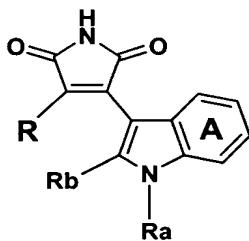
Amendments to the Specification

(a) Below the title on Page 1, please add the following new paragraph:

This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/007,368 filed November 5, 2001 which is incorporated herein by reference, and which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/246,400 filed November 7, 2000 and of Provisional Application No. 60/283,705 filed April 13, 2001.

(b) Please replace the paragraph bridging Pages 1 and 2, starting with "More particularly . . ." on Page 1, line 4 and ending on Page 2, line 12 with "... ring A is optionally substituted", with the following amended paragraph:

More particularly the present invention provides a compound of formula I



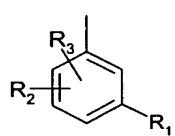
wherein

R_a is H; C₁₋₄alkyl; or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by OH, NH₂, NHC₁₋₄alkyl or N(di-C₁₋₄alkyl)₂

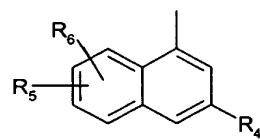
N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

R_b is H; or C₁₋₄alkyl;

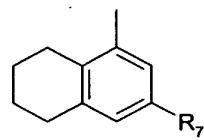
R is a radical of formula (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f)



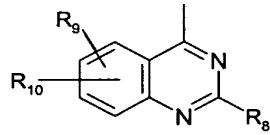
(a)



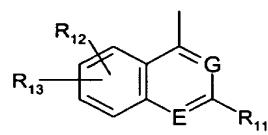
(b)



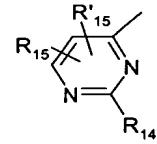
(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)

wherein

each of R₁, R₄, R₇, R₈, R₁₁ and R₁₄ is OH; SH; a heterocyclic residue; NR₁₆R₁₇ wherein each of R₁₆ and R₁₇, independently, is H or C₁₋₄alkyl or R₁₆ and R₁₇ form together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound a heterocyclic residue; or a radical of formula α



wherein X is a direct bond, O, S or NR₁₈ wherein R₁₈ is H or C₁₋₄alkyl,

R_c is C_{1-4} alkylene or C_{1-4} alkylene wherein one CH_2 is replaced by CR_xR_y wherein one of R_x and R_y is H and the other is CH_3 , each of R_x and R_y is CH_3 or R_x and R_y form together $-CH_2-CH_2-$, and

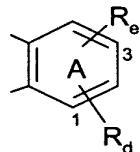
Y is bound to the terminal carbon atom and is selected from OH, a heterocyclic residue and $-NR_{19}R_{20}$ wherein each of R_{19} and R_{20} independently is H, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted on the terminal carbon atom by OH, or R_{19} and R_{20} form together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound a heterocyclic residue;

each of R_2 , R_3 , R_5 , R_6 , R_9 , R_{10} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{15} and R'_{15} , independently, is H, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3 , OH, SH, NH_2 , C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, NHC_{1-4} alkyl, $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ or CN; either E is $-N=$ and G is $-CH=$ or E is $-CH=$ and G is $-N=$; and ring A is optionally substituted.

(c) Please replace the fourth full paragraph on Page 3, starting with "When ring A is substituted ... " on line 10 and ending on line 17 with "... or $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$." with the following paragraph:

When ring A is substituted, it may be mono- or polysubstituted, preferably monosubstituted, the substituent(s) being selected from the group consisting of e.g. halogen, OH, C_{1-4} alkoxy, e.g. OCH_3 , C_{1-4} alkyl, e.g. CH_3 , NO_2 , CF_3 , NH_2 , $NHC_{1-4}alkyl$, $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ and CN.

For example, ring A may be a residue of formula



wherein

R_d is H; C_{1-4} alkyl; or halogen; and

R_e is OH; NO_2 ; NH_2 ; $NHC_{1-4}alkyl$; or $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$.